

REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

By this Amendment, Applicant cancels claim 7 without disclaimer of the underlying subject matter or prejudice against future prosecution. Applicant also amends claim 1 for clarification and adds new claims 12 and 13. Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 8-13 are pending in the application.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the following Remarks.

CLAIM OBJECTION

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 1 for clarification.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claim 1 be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6, 8-9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Koster et al. U.S. Patent 5,945,776 ("Koster"), and claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Koster in view of Calon et al. U.S. Patent 6,525,454 ("Calon").

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1

Among other things, the high pressure discharge lamp assembly of claim 1 includes a conduction member connected to the second current-supply conductor and extending through an opening in the center section of the reflector, and a contact member provided on a surface of the reflector facing away from the discharge lamp, where the contact member is connected to the conduction member.

Applicant respectfully submits that Koster fails to disclose this combination of features.

The Office Action cites element 6 in Koster as supposedly corresponding to the recited contact member. However, Applicant respectfully submits that element 6 in Koster is not "*provided on a surface of the reflector facing away from the discharge lamp*" but instead is provided at an extreme end of cap 5 located furthest away from

reflector 10.

So Applicant respectfully submits that Koster does not disclose the discharge lamp assembly of claim 1.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable over Koster. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn and that claim 1 be allowed.

Claims 2-6, 8-9 and 11

Claims 2-6, 8-9 and 11 depend from claim 1 and are deemed patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 2-6, 8-9 and 11 be withdrawn and that claims 2-6, 8-9 and 11 be allowed.

Claim 10

Claim 10 depends from claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Calon does not remedy the deficiencies of Koster as set forth above with respect to claim 1, and therefore claim 10 is deemed patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 10 be withdrawn and that claim 10 be allowed.

NEW CLAIMS 12 & 13

By this Amendment, Applicant adds new claims 12 and 13. Exemplary embodiments illustrating a device including the features of claim 12 are shown at least in FIGs. 1 and 3 of the application, and an exemplary embodiment illustrating a device including the features of claim 13 is shown at least in FIG. 1 of the application. New claims 12 and 13 are deemed patentable over the cited art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 12

Among other things, in the high pressure discharge lamp assembly of claim 12, the discharge lamp is mounted in a fixation means provided in the opening of the reflector, and the conduction member is guided through the fixation mean. This is similar to the feature that was recited in previously pending, and now-canceled, claim 7.

Applicant respectfully submits that Koster fails to disclose this combination of features.

The Office Action cites elements 25-28 in Koster as supposedly corresponding to the recited fixation means. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Koster's unlabeled conduction member, a cross-section of which is shown as a cross-hatched circle in FIG. 4, is not guided through elements 25-28, but instead passes outside of elements 25-28.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 12 is patentable over the cited art.

Claim 13

Among other things, the high pressure discharge lamp assembly of claim 13 includes: a first contact member provided as a first circular conducting strip around the reflector on a surface of the reflector facing away from the discharge lamp, the first contact member being connected to the conduction member; and a second contact member provided as a second circular conducting strip around the reflector on the surface of the reflector facing away from the discharge lamp, the second contact member being connected to the first current-supply conductor.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited art does not teach any high pressure discharge lamp assembly including this combination of features. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that Koster does not disclose first and contact members provided as first and second circular conducting strips around the reflector.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is patentable over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing explanations, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and reexamine the present application, allow claims 1-6 and 8-13 and pass the application to issue.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843)

at (571) 283.0720 to discuss these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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